

REGIONAL FUGITIVE TASK FORCES

CATCH OF THE WEEK

Week of January 10th, 2005

Taking the Worst of the Worst Off the Streets

Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task Force

On January 8, 2005, Michael Diekhoff was arrested in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, following a multi-state investigation conducted by the Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task Force (GLRFTF). Diekhoff was wanted in McLean County, Illinois for aggravated armed kidnapping. On the morning of January 6, 2005, Diekhoff, who was in possession of a 12 gauge shotgun, kidnapped the victim from her place of employment in Bloomington, Illinois. Diekhoff and the victim had a short relationship that she broke off in the fall of 2004, after which, her house was burnt and shortly thereafter, her car was spray painted. She then began receiving harassing telephone calls from an unknown person threatening her children. All of the crimes were traced to Diekhoff. The McLean County Sheriffs Office requested the help of the GLRFTF in locating Diekhoff and his victim. The GLRFTF and the McLean County Sheriff's Department determined that Diekhoff was in Iowa and alerted USMS district offices. In addition, the GLRFTF obtained a UFAP warrant and worked with *America's Most Wanted* to run the story on the front page of its web site.

On January 8, 2005, Diekhoff pulled into a truck stop in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. After convincing Diekhoff that she needed to sleep while he went into the truck stop, the victim was able to drive away and get help. Local authorities and the USMS in the District of South Dakota were notified and searched for Diekhoff, who was spotted on foot entering a trailer sales lot. He was captured a short time later hiding in a trailer. The shotgun and ammunition as well as chains, handcuffs, duct tape, and a knife were recovered from his vehicle. During an interview, the victim stated that, during the trip west, Diekhoff chained and handcuffed her to the seat and told her several times while pointing the shotgun at her that he was going to kill her and himself. Diekhoff has a violent criminal history and in 1987 shot and wounded a former girlfriend in Indiana as she drove away from him in her car. While out on bond he kidnapped her. He served 13 years in prison for those crimes.



Michael Diekhoff

**Wanted for
Aggravated Armed
Kidnapping**

Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force

On January 13, 2005, members of the Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force (SERFTF), in conjunction with the Dalton, Georgia Police Department, arrested Lavalis Ward at an apartment in Dalton, Georgia. Ward was wanted by the Dalton Police Department for kidnapping, aggravated assault, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, use of a weapon during the commission of a crime, and parole violation. On December 18, 2004, it is alleged that Ward abducted a female at gunpoint from a convenience store and drove her to an undisclosed location where he physically assaulted her. At the time of the arrest, Ward and his girlfriend, Callie Borhman, were also considered prime suspects in at least ten home invasion robberies in the Dalton area. During these robberies, intruders, posing as swat officers dressed in jumpsuits, ski masks, boots, and laser-equipped firearms, entered the victim's homes and assaulted the homeowners. On the morning of January 13, 2004, SERFTF agents were able to locate Ward's vehicle, as well as the vehicle that Ward's girlfriend was driving, at an apartment complex. After it was confirmed that Ward and his girlfriend were inside one of the units, SERFTF agents and Dalton P.D. officers breached the door and arrested Ward, his girlfriend, and three other individuals without incident. A search of the unit revealed three semi-automatic handguns, one pump shotgun, one SKS assault rifle, jumpsuits, masks, approximately five ounces of methamphetamine, and a small sum of U.S. currency hidden throughout the residence. After the search was conducted, two of the arrested males admitted to their parts in the robberies and implicated both Ward and his girlfriend as participants. Ward's criminal history includes eleven prior arrests involving numerous charges, including aggravated assaults, narcotics and weapons offenses, obstruction of officers, and various thefts.



Lavalis Ward

**Wanted for
Kidnapping,
Aggravated Assault,
Possession of a
Firearm by a
Convicted Felon, and
Use of a Weapon
During the
Commission of a
Crime**

Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force

On July 2, 2004, a woman was dragged into the woods at an Alexandria, Virginia park by two males who each raped her at gunpoint. Jose Daniel Bonilla and Rigoberto Ramos were charged by the Alexandria Police Department with the rape and firearm offenses. Bonilla was arrested by members of the Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force (CARFTF) on July 16, 2004, but Ramos fled to El Salvador. After a six month investigation, Ramos was located and arrested on January 10, 2005, by CARFTF members after a felony vehicle stop in Manassas, Virginia. A loaded 9mm pistol was removed from his waist during the arrest. The U.S. Marshals Technical Operations Group assisted in this case.



Rigoberto Ramos

**Wanted for Armed
Rape**

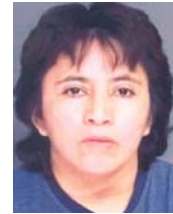
New York/New Jersey Regional Fugitive Task Force

On January 11, 2005, members of the NY/NJ Regional Fugitive Task Force were requested by Suffolk County, New York, Police Department to locate and arrest Juan C. Rendon, who was wanted in connection with a brutal rape in which he seriously injured a young female. The female victim was hospitalized with fractures to the cheek bones, orbital sockets, as well as severe bodily injuries. Information was developed that the defendant's mother also acted in concert by holding the victim down while her son brutally attacked the victim. Intelligence gathered revealed that the defendant had stolen a car in an attempt to flee the area. On January 13, 2005, Task Force members, with assistance from the U.S. Marshals Technical Operations Group, were able to locate and arrest Rendon in Jackson Heights, New York. Arrested shortly after was Beatrice Rendon, his mother. Juan Rendon was charged with rape, sodomy, kidnapping, and assault. His mother Beatrice Rendon was charged with kidnapping and assault.



Juan Rendon

**Wanted for Rape,
Sodomy, Kidnapping,
and Assault**



Beatrice Rendon

**Wanted for
Kidnapping and
Assault**

Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force

Steven Godbolt was arrested in Lancaster, California on January 14, 2005 by members of the Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force (PSWRFTF) and Deputy Sheriffs from the Riverside County Sheriff's Department (RCSD), with assistance from the U.S. Marshals Technical Operations Group (TOG). Godbolt, a Crips gang member from Moreno Valley, was wanted by the RCSD for one count of murder and three counts of attempted murder in connection with a gang-related shooting that occurred on September 22, 2004 in Moreno Valley, California. In that incident, Godbolt allegedly became involved in a verbal altercation with rival gang members. Later that day, Godbolt and two associates drove to a residence in Moreno Valley where a group of people were standing in a driveway. Using a .45 caliber handgun and two 9mm handguns, Godbolt and his two associates allegedly opened fire on the group and shot until their weapons were empty. In the aftermath, one victim was dead and three others were wounded. PSWRFTF and TOG investigators tracked Godbolt to a residence in Lancaster where he was taken into custody without incident and turned over to RCSD investigators who were present at the time of arrest.

Crips Gang Member



Steven Godbolt

**Wanted for Murder
and Attempted
Murder**